

**H.R. 4847, AS AMENDED**  
**BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY**  
**AND INNOVATION ON FEBRUARY 7, 2008**

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “United States Fire  
3 Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008”.

**4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5       Congress finds the following:

6           (1) The loss of life due to fire has dropped sig-  
7 nificantly over the last 25 years in the United  
8 States. However, the United States still has one of  
9 the highest fire death rates in the industrialized  
10 world. In 2005 the National Fire Protection Asso-  
11 ciation reported 3,675 civilian fire deaths, 17,925 ci-  
12 vilian fire injuries, and \$10,672,000,000 in direct  
13 losses due to fire.

14           (2) Every year, over 100 firefighters die in the  
15 line of duty. The United States Fire Administration  
16 should continue its leadership to help local fire agen-  
17 cies dramatically reduce these fatalities.

18           (3) Members of the fire service community  
19 should continue to work together to further the pro-

1 motion of national voluntary consensus standards  
2 that increase firefighter safety.

3 (4) The United States Fire Administration pro-  
4 vides crucial support to the Nation's 30,300 fire de-  
5 partments through training, emergency incident data  
6 collection, fire awareness and education, and support  
7 of research and development activities for fire pre-  
8 vention, control, and suppression technologies.

9 (5) The collection of data on fire and other  
10 emergency incidents is a vital tool both for policy  
11 makers and emergency responders to identify and  
12 develop responses to emerging hazards. Improving  
13 the United States Fire Administration's data collec-  
14 tion capabilities is essential for accurately tracking  
15 and responding to the magnitude and nature of the  
16 Nation's fire problem.

17 (6) The research and development performed by  
18 the National Institute of Standards and Technology,  
19 the United States Fire Administration, other govern-  
20 ment agencies, and non-governmental organizations  
21 on fire technologies, techniques, and tools advance  
22 the capabilities of the Nation's fire service to sup-  
23 press and prevent fires.

24 (7) The United States Fire Administration is  
25 one of the strongest voices representing the Nation's

1 fire service within the Federal Government, and, as  
2 such, it should have a prominent place within the  
3 Department of Homeland Security.

4 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR UNITED**  
5 **STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION.**

6 Section 17(g)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and  
7 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)) is amended—

8 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking the “and”  
9 after the semicolon;

10 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period  
11 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

12 (3) by adding after subparagraph (D) the fol-  
13 lowing new subparagraphs:

14 “(E) \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, of  
15 which \$2,520,000 shall be used to carry out  
16 section 8;

17 “(F) \$72,100,000 for fiscal year 2010, of  
18 which \$2,595,600 shall be used to carry out  
19 section 8;

20 “(G) \$74,263,000 for fiscal year 2011, of  
21 which \$2,673,468 shall be used to carry out  
22 section 8; and

23 “(H) \$76,490,890 for fiscal year 2012, of  
24 which \$2,753,672 shall be used to carry out  
25 section 8.”.

1 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING PROGRAM**  
2 **MODIFICATIONS AND REPORTS.**

3 (a) AMENDMENTS TO FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING.—  
4 Section 7(d)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Con-  
5 trol Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2206(d)(1)) is amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “terrorist-  
7 caused national catastrophes” and inserting “ter-  
8 rorist-caused and other national catastrophes”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (K), by striking “forest”  
10 and inserting “wildland”;

11 (3) in subparagraph (M), by striking “response  
12 tactics and” and inserting “response, tactics, and”;

13 (4) by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through  
14 (N) as subparagraphs (M) through (R), respectively;  
15 and

16 (5) by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-  
17 lowing new subparagraphs:

18 “(I) response, tactics, and strategies for  
19 fighting large-scale fires or multiple fires in a  
20 general area that cross jurisdictional bound-  
21 aries;

22 “(J) response, tactics, and strategies for  
23 fighting fires occurring at the wildland-urban  
24 interface;

25 “(K) response, tactics, and strategies for  
26 fighting fires involving hazardous materials;

1 “(L) advanced emergency medical services  
2 training;”.

3 (b) TRIENNIAL REPORTS.—Section 7 of such Act (15  
4 U.S.C. 2206) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing new subsection:

6 “(m) TRIENNIAL REPORT.—In the first annual re-  
7 port filed pursuant to section 16 for which the deadline  
8 for filing is after the expiration of the 18-month period  
9 that begins on the date of the enactment of the United  
10 States Fire Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008,  
11 and in every third annual report thereafter, the Adminis-  
12 trator shall include information about changes made to the  
13 National Fire Academy curriculum, including—

14 “(1) the basis for such changes, including a re-  
15 view of the incorporation of lessons learned by emer-  
16 gency response personnel after significant emergency  
17 events and emergency preparedness exercises per-  
18 formed under the National Exercise Program; and

19 “(2) the desired training outcome of all such  
20 changes.”.

21 (c) AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER  
22 INTO CONTRACTS TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING  
23 THROUGH CERTAIN ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS.—Sec-  
24 tion 7(f) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2206) is amended to read  
25 as follows:

1 “(f) ASSISTANCE.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator is au-  
3 thorized to provide assistance to State and local fire  
4 service training programs through grants, contracts,  
5 or otherwise.

6 “(2) AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CON-  
7 TRACTS TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING THROUGH  
8 CERTAIN ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator is  
10 authorized to enter into a contract with a na-  
11 tionally recognized organization that has estab-  
12 lished on-site training programs that comply  
13 with national voluntary consensus standards for  
14 fire service personnel to facilitate the delivery of  
15 the education and training programs outlined in  
16 subsection (d)(1) directly to fire service per-  
17 sonnel.

18 “(B) RESTRICTIONS.—The Administrator  
19 shall not enter into a contract with such organi-  
20 zation unless such organization—

21 “(i) operates a fire service training  
22 program accredited by a nationally recog-  
23 nized accreditation organization experi-  
24 enced with accrediting such training; or

1 “(ii) at the time the Administrator en-  
2 ters into the contract, provides training  
3 under such a program to a Federal agency  
4 under a cooperative agreement with such  
5 agency.

6 “(3) RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS.—The  
7 amounts expended by the Administrator to carry out  
8 this subsection in any fiscal year shall not exceed 4  
9 per centum of the amount authorized to be appro-  
10 priated in such fiscal year pursuant to section 17 of  
11 this Act.”.

12 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UP-**  
13 **GRADES.**

14 (a) INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM DATABASE.—Sec-  
15 tion 9 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of  
16 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2208) is amended by adding at the end  
17 the following new subsection:

18 “(d) NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM  
19 UPDATE.—Of the amounts made available pursuant to  
20 subparagraphs (E), (F), and (G) of section 17(g)(1), the  
21 Administrator shall use no more than an aggregate  
22 amount of \$5,000,000 during the 3-year period consisting  
23 of fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011 to carry out activities  
24 necessary to update the National Fire Incident Reporting  
25 system to an Internet-based, real-time incident reporting

1 database, including capital investment, contractor engage-  
2 ment, and user education.”.

3 (b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 9(b)(2) of  
4 such Act (15 U.S.C. 2208(b)(2)) is amended by striking  
5 “assist State,” and inserting “assist Federal, State,”.

6 **SEC. 6. FIRE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH**  
7 **DISSEMINATION.**

8 (a) ASSISTANCE TO FIRE SERVICES FOR FIRE PRE-  
9 VENTION AND CONTROL IN WILDLAND-URBAN INTER-  
10 FACE.—Section 8(d) of the Federal Fire Prevention and  
11 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2207(d)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “RURAL ASSISTANCE” in the  
13 heading and inserting “RURAL AND WILDLAND-  
14 URBAN INTERFACE ASSISTANCE”;

15 (2) by striking “The Administrator” and insert-  
16 ing “(1) The Administrator”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
18 paragraph:

19 “(2) The Administrator is authorized to assist the  
20 Nation’s fire services, directly or through contracts,  
21 grants, or other forms of assistance, to sponsor and en-  
22 courage research into approaches, techniques, systems,  
23 and equipment to improve fire prevention and control in  
24 the wildland-urban interface.”.



1 (b) TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.—Sec-  
2 tion 8 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2207) is amended by adding  
3 at the end the following new subsection:

4 “(h) RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.—Beginning 1 year  
5 after the date of the enactment of the United States Fire  
6 Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008, the Adminis-  
7 trator, in collaboration with the relevant departments and  
8 agencies of the Federal Government, shall make available  
9 to the public information about all ongoing and planned  
10 fire-related research funded by the Administration during  
11 fiscal year 2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, as well  
12 as the results generated from such research, through a  
13 regularly updated Internet-based database.”.

14 **SEC. 7. ENCOURAGING ADOPTION OF STANDARDS FOR**  
15 **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY.**

16 The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974  
17 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
18 the following new section:

19 **“SEC. 37. ENCOURAGING ADOPTION OF STANDARDS FOR**  
20 **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY.**

21 “The Administrator shall promote adoption by fire  
22 services of national voluntary consensus standards for fire-  
23 fighter health and safety, including such standards for  
24 firefighter operations, training, staffing, and fitness, by  
25 educating fire services about such standards, encouraging

1 the adoption at all levels of government of such standards,  
2 and making recommendations on other ways in which the  
3 Federal government can promote the adoption of such  
4 standards by fire services.”.

5 **SEC. 8. COORDINATION REGARDING FIRE SERVICE-BASED**  
6 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

7 Section 21(e) of the Federal Fire Prevention and  
8 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2218(e)) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 “(e) COORDINATION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent practicable,  
12 the Administrator shall utilize existing programs,  
13 data, information, and facilities already available in  
14 other Federal Government departments and agencies  
15 and, where appropriate, existing research organiza-  
16 tions, centers, and universities.

17 “(2) COORDINATION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND  
18 CONTROL PROGRAMS.—The Administrator shall pro-  
19 vide liaison at an appropriate organizational level to  
20 assure coordination of the Administrator’s activities  
21 with State and local government agencies, depart-  
22 ments, bureaus, or offices concerned with any matter  
23 related to programs of fire prevention and control  
24 with private and other Federal organizations and of-  
25 fices so concerned.

1           “(3) COORDINATION OF FIRE SERVICE-BASED  
2       EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAMS.—The  
3       Administrator shall provide liaison at an appropriate  
4       organizational level to assure coordination of the Ad-  
5       ministrator’s activities with State and local govern-  
6       ment agencies, departments, bureaus, or offices con-  
7       cerned with programs related to emergency medical  
8       services provided by fire service-based systems with  
9       private and other Federal organizations and offices  
10      so concerned.”.

11 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

12       Section 4 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control  
13   Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2203) is amended—

14           (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “Administra-  
15       tion” and inserting “Administration, who is the As-  
16       sistant Administrator of the Federal Emergency  
17       Management Agency”;

18           (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the “and”  
19       after the semicolon;

20           (3) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at  
21       the end and inserting “; and”;

22           (4) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and  
23       (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively;

24           (5) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-  
25       lowing new paragraph:

1           “(6) ‘hazardous materials’ has the meaning  
2           given such term in section 5102(2) of title 49,  
3           United States Code;”; and

4           (6) by adding at the end the following new  
5           paragraph:

6           “(10) ‘wildland-urban interface’ has the mean-  
7           ing given such term in section 101(16) of the  
8           Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C.  
9           6511(16)).”.